



## PROCLAMATION

### **Meso Awareness Day September 26, 2008**

*WHEREAS, approximately 3,000 Americans die each year from mesothelioma, an aggressive cancer of the linings of the lungs, abdomen, heart or testicles; and*

*WHEREAS, the heavy use of asbestos in manufacturing, industry and construction has been recognized as "the worst occupational health disaster in U.S. history;" and*

*WHEREAS, exposure to asbestos for as little as one month can result in mesothelioma 30 years later; and*

*WHEREAS, asbestos was used in the construction of virtually all office buildings, public schools, and homes built before 1975; and*

*WHEREAS, a high percentage of all mesothelioma victims were exposed to asbestos on Naval ships and in shipyards; and*

*WHEREAS, it is believed that many of the firefighters, police officers, and rescue workers from Ground Zero on 9/11/01 may be at increased risk of contracting mesothelioma; and*

*WHEREAS, for decades the need for research to develop effective treatments for mesothelioma was overlooked and as a result of this neglect is that treatments available today generally have only limited effect and most patients succumb within only 12 to 15 months from diagnosis; and*

*WHEREAS, in 1999, the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation was formed to eradicate the life-ending and vicious effects of mesothelioma, and early progress in developing effective treatments for the disease is now being made;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2008, as MESO AWARENESS DAY to raise public awareness of the disease and of the need to develop effective treatments for it.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2008.*

*Marty Blum*  
MARTY BLUM, MAYOR

